Illegitimate Children (Ireland) Bill.

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES.

Preamble recites 25 & 26 Vict. c. 83.

Tenth Section of recited Act repealed; Sect. 1.

Board of Guardians may recover Cost of Maintenance of illegitimate Child; 2.

Petty Sessions Clerk shall furnish to Board of Guardians, or putative Father, Copy of Information; such Copy to be received in Evidence; 3.

Civil Bill to be heard by Chairman of Quarter Sessions; 4.

This Act incorporated with recited Act; 5.

SCHEDULE.

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A

BILL

TO

Amend the Law enabling Boards of Guardians to recover Costs of Maintenance of illegitimate Children in certain Cases in Ireland.

WHEREAS an Act was passed in the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Years of Her Majesty, Chapter Eighty-three, intituled "An Act to amend the Laws in force "for the Relief of the Destitute Poor in Ireland, and to continue the "Powers of the Commissioners:" And whereas it is expedient to amend the Provisions of the said recited Act with respect to the Recovery of the Cost of the Maintenance of any illegitimate Child from its putative Father during the Time that such Child is in receipt of Relief from the Poor Rates and while under the Age of Fourteen: Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, as follows:

Preamble. 25 & 26 Vict. c. 83.

1. From and after the *passing of this Act* the Tenth Section of the said recited Act shall be and the same is hereby repealed, except as to anything heretofore done under it, and except so far as may be necessary for the Purpose of supporting and continuing any Proceeding taken before the passing of this Act; and it is declared, that, notwithstanding

Tenth Section of recited Act repealed.

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withstanding such Repeal, any Decree made under the said Section by any Chairman of Quarter Sessions shall be good and valid, and capable of being enforced as an ordinary Civil Bill Decree for a Debt.

Board of Guardians may recover Cost of Maintenance of illegitimate Child.

2. It shall be lawful for the Board of Guardians of any Union to recover, by Civil Bill Process at their own Suit, the Cost of the Maintenance of any illegitimate Child during the Time that such Child, while under the Age of *Fourteen* Years, has been in receipt of Relief from the Poor Rates since the passing of the said recited Act, from the putative Father of such Child: Provided always, that no Person shall be sued by the said Board of Guardians as aforesaid, save such Person only as the Mother of such illegitimate Child shall have stated to be the Father of such Child, in a written Information in the Form to this Act annexed, or to the like Effect, made by her on Oath before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace in Petty Sessions, or (if made in the Police District of Dublin Metropolis) before One or more Divisional Justices within the said District, which Information the said Justice or Justices are hereby authorized to take.

Petty Sessions Clerk shall furnish to Board of Guardians, or putative Father, Copy of Information; such Copy to be received in Evidence.

3. Upon such Information having been sworn the Petty Sessions Clerk or the Chief Clerk to said Divisional Justices shall retain and preserve the same amongst the Records of such Petty Sessions or Police Court, and shall furnish to the Board of Guardians and to the putative Father of such Child, upon their or his Application for the same respectively, a certified Copy, under the Hand of such Petty Sessions Clerk or Chief Clerk, of such Information; and any such certified Copy shall be received in Evidence in any Court as a Proof that such Information was made.

Civil Bill to be heard by Chairman of Quarter Sessions.

4. The Civil Bill herein-before mentioned shall be served together with a Copy of the said Information, and shall be heard and determined as an ordinary Civil Bill for a Debt by the Chairman of Quarter Sessions or other Judge having Jurisdiction to hold a Court for hearing Civil Bills; and such Civil Bill shall be subject to all the Provisions, Rules, and Regulations affecting an ordinary Civil Bill for a Debt and the Proceedings thereunder, including the Right of Appeal: Provided always, that such Chairman or Judge shall not pronounce a Decree upon such Civil Bill unless the Mother of the Child shall have been examined before him, and her Statement as to the Defendant being the Father of the Child shall have been supported by corroborative Evidence.

This Act incorporated with recited Act.

5. This Act shall be deemed to be incorporated with the said recited Act, and shall be construed as if the said recited Act (except such Parts thereof as have been repealed or amended by this Act) and this Act were One Act.

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SCHEDULE.

Form of Information.

Petty Sessions, District of
County of

The Information of residing at
in the County of who
saith on Oath that she is the Mother of an illegitimate Child, called
or known by the Name of and that one
of in the County of
is the Father of such Child.

Taken before this Day of
in the Year Eighteen hundred and sixty- at
in the said County.
Signed
Justice of the said County.

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Illegitimate Children (Ireland).

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BILL

To amend the Law enabling Boards of Guardians to recover Costs of Maintenance of illegitimate Children in certain Cases in Ireland.

(Prepared and brought in by Sir Robert Peel and Mr. Bruce).

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,* 10 *February* 1863.

[Bill 13.]

Under 1 *oz.*

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